

*Larinioides folium* (Schrank, 1803) is a valid species name  
(Aranei: Araneidae)

*Larinioides folium* (Schrank, 1803) — валидное название  
(Aranei: Araneidae)

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КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: пауки, Araneidae, *Araneus*, *Larinioides*, номенклатура.

ABSTRACT. The validity of the spider name *Aranea folium* Schrank, 1803, now *Larinioides folium*, is confirmed. *Epeira suspicax* O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1876 is considered a junior synonym of *Larinioides folium*.

РЕЗЮМЕ. Подтверждена валидность видового названия паука *Aranea folium* Schrank, 1803, ныне *Larinioides folium*. *Epeira suspicax* O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1876 рассматривается как младший синоним *Larinioides folium*.

Two orb-weaving spiders (Araneidae) currently known as *Larinioides cornutus* (Clerck, 1758) and *L. folium* (Schrank, 1803) / *L. suspicax* (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1876) have been confused for a long time, being regarded as a single species under the name *Araneus cornutus*. Its comprehensive synonymy list was provided by Bonnet [1955].

The description of *Araneus cornutus* given by Clerck [1757: 40–41, Pl.1, Tab.2] was more or less adequate for the species identification. The description of *Aranea folium* given by Schrank [1803: 240] was very laconic, with no figures, like most of the spider descriptions at that time. The spider was described from the territory of Bavaria (modern Germany).

Kulczyński [1901] was the first author who provided a detailed distinction between *Epeira folium* and *E. cornuta* (p. 329–330, Tab. XII, fig. 10–14). By unknown reason, this diagnosis was overlooked by most arachnologists. For example, Wiehle [1931] referred to *Aranea foliata* Fourcroy, 1785 as to a synonym of *A. cornutus*; the Clerckian nomenclature was rejected at that time. In his comments, Wiehle mentioned the Mediterranean *A. suspicax* (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1876) as a separate species. Only Thaler [1974] restored the distinction between *Araneus cornutus* and *A. folium*. He also synonymized *Araneus suspicax* with *A. folium*.

Levy [1998: 345] insisted on the long-term confusion between the names *folium* Schrank, 1803 and *foli-*

*ata* Fourcroy, 1785. For example, according to Kulczyński [1901], the latter name should have been ascribed to both *cornutus* and *folium*, because both species were found in France. Yet, to be precise, the same reasoning seems to be applicable to the name *folium* Schrank, 1803, because both species occur not only in France but also in Germany (see Helsdingen [2013]). Another reason to reject the name *folium* Schrank, 1803 is its homonymy with *Aranea folium* Preyssler, 1791 [Levy, 1998]. As a result, Levy [1998] proposed to use *Larinioides suspicax* (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1876) as a valid name.

In my opinion, for the correct placement of original *Aranea foliata* Fourcroy, 1785 it seems to better follow the 20th-century arachnological literature and to treat this name as a synonym of *Araneus cornutus*. Yet, I see no reason to consider *Aranea folium* Schrank, 1803 in the sense of Kulczyński [1901] and Thaler [1974].

The homonymy problem seems to have an unquestionable solution. Since 1791, the name *Aranea folium* Preyssler, 1791 had been cited only once, being simply listed in Index animalium [Sherborn, 1902]. By no means, this citation used it as a valid name. Therefore, the request of the Article 23.9.1.1 [ICZN] (viz., no use as valid name after 1899) is fulfilled in this case.

To sum up, the junior homonym *Aranea folium* Schrenk, 1803 must be used as a valid name instead of its junior synonym *Epeira suspicax* O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1876. Furthermore, it is likely that *Larinioides folium* and *L. suspicax* are two separate species (M.M. Kovblyuk, pers. comm.).

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